# NEW IN VITRO TOOLS AND MODELS FOR THE PRE-CLINICAL DRUG DISCOVERY PROCESS

MARCH 14-15, 2013 | LISTER HILL AUDITORIUM, NIH CAMPUS | BETHESDA, MD



# Disease-Specific Integrated Microphysiological Analysis Platforms (iMAPs)

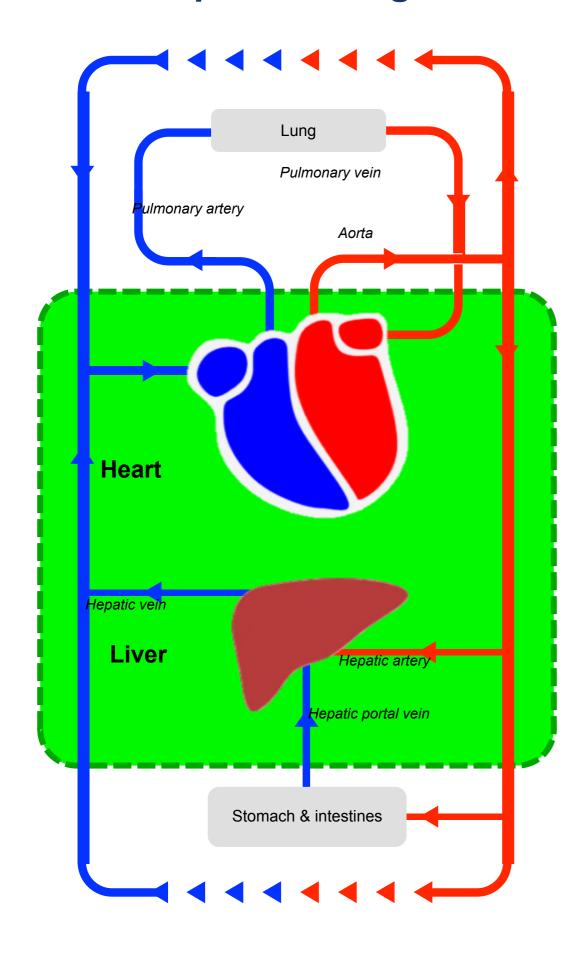
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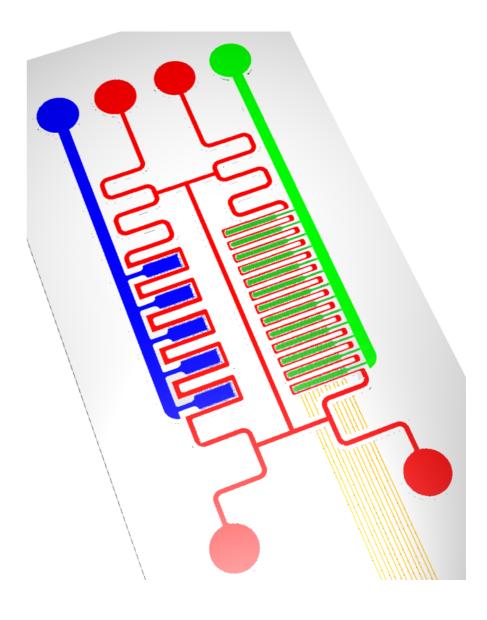


## Disease-Specific Integrated Microphysiological Human Tissue Models

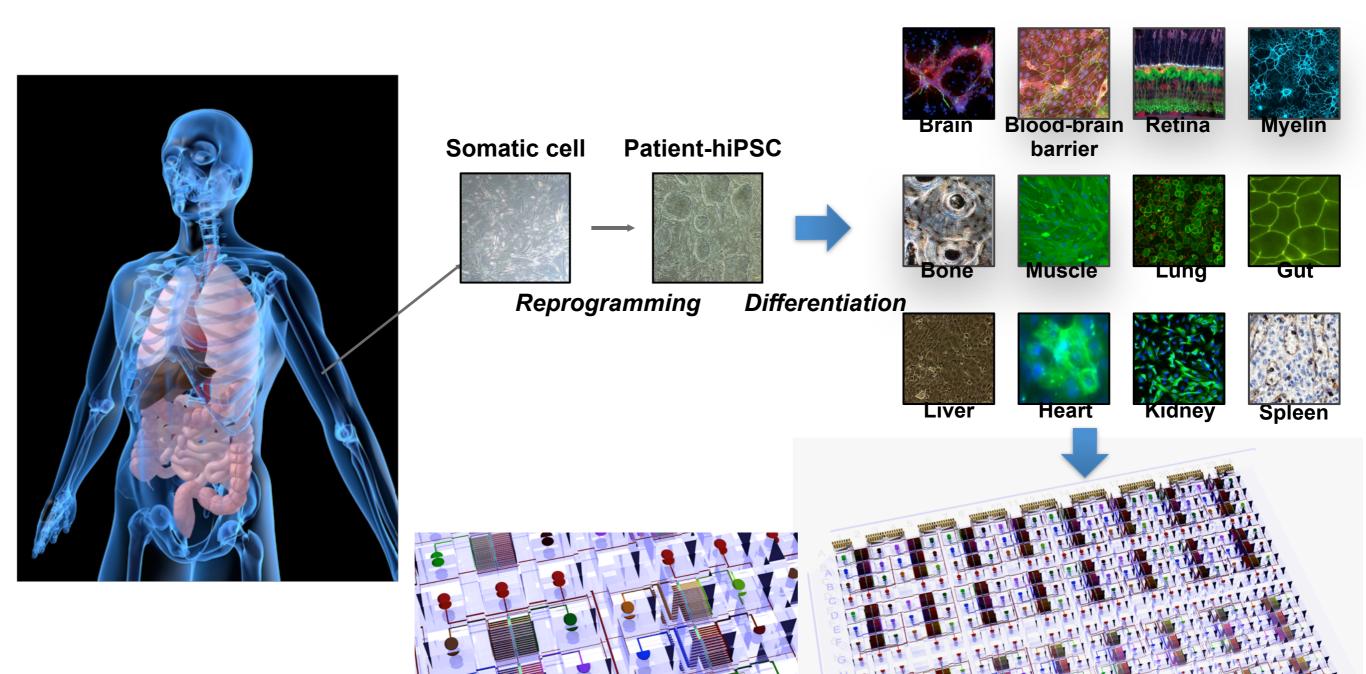


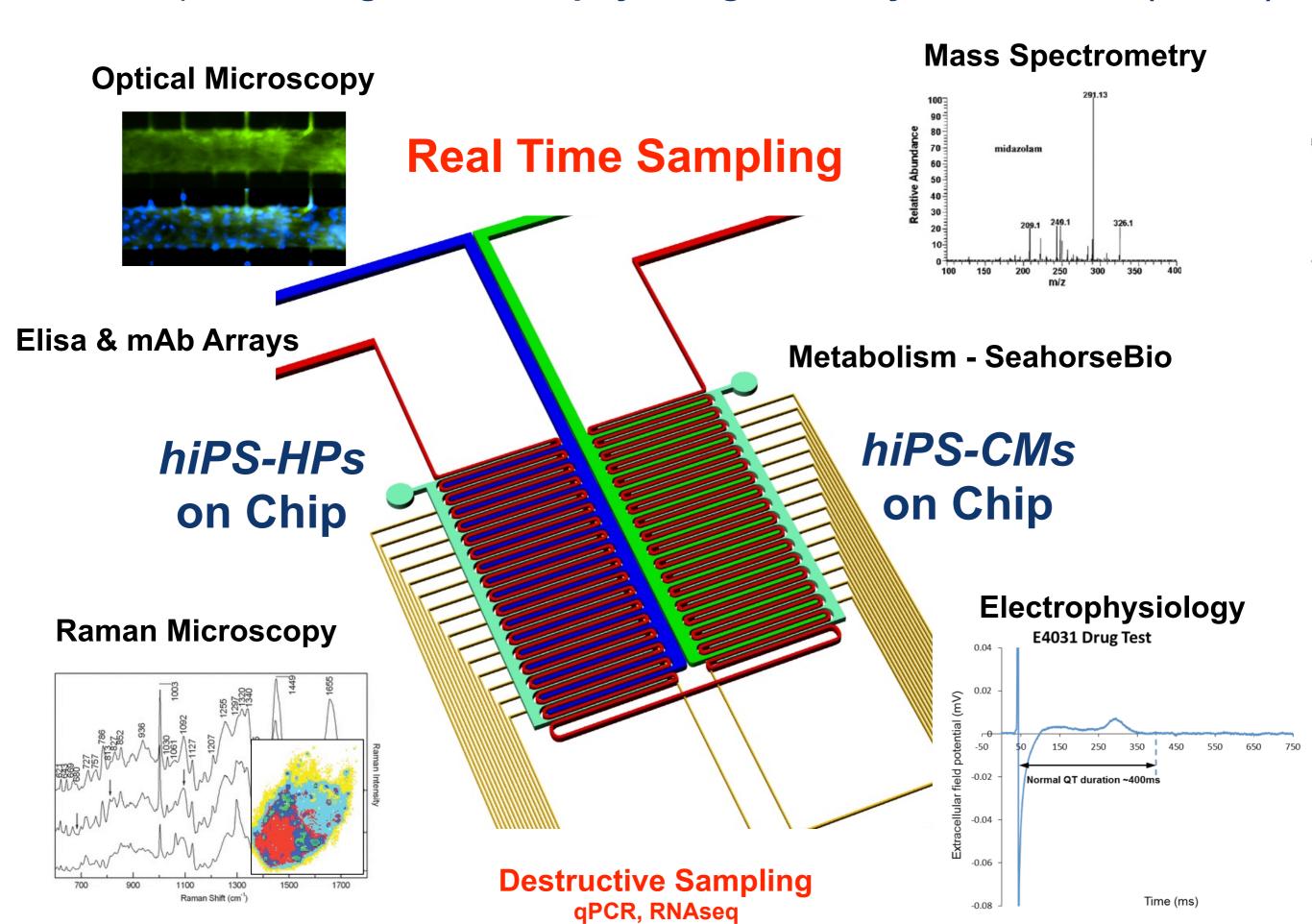
# Most drugs fail due to cardiac or liver toxicity

Integrated *in vitro* models of human cardiac and liver tissue



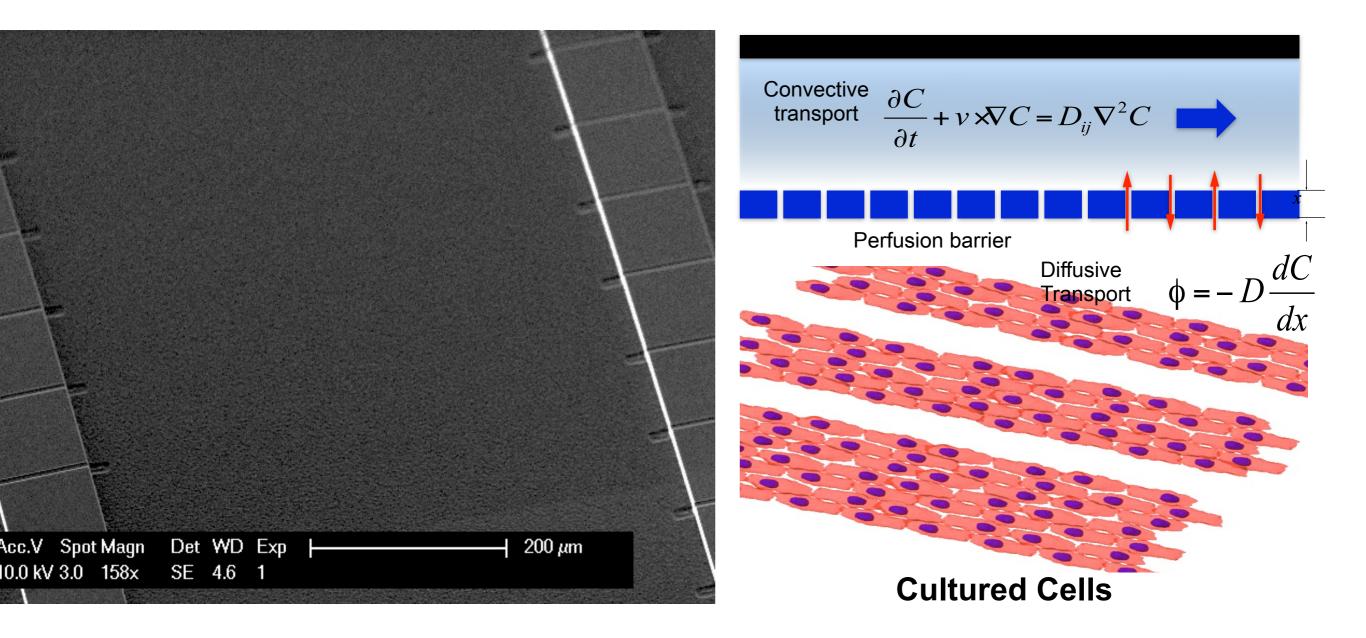
# Patient-Specific integrated Microphysiological Analysis Platforms (iMAPs) Human iMAPS





## Physiologically Relevant Precision Biology by Biomimetic Cell Culture

What is the minimal organ size or organoid to assist in drug discovery?



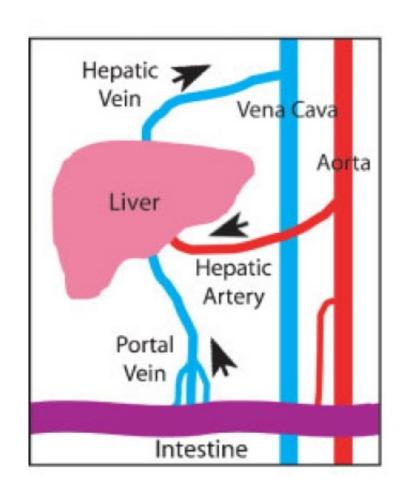
- \* Understand physiologically relevant microenvironments
- \* Use precision microengineering to create better cell environments
- \* Precision biological perturbations, real time and continuous monitoring

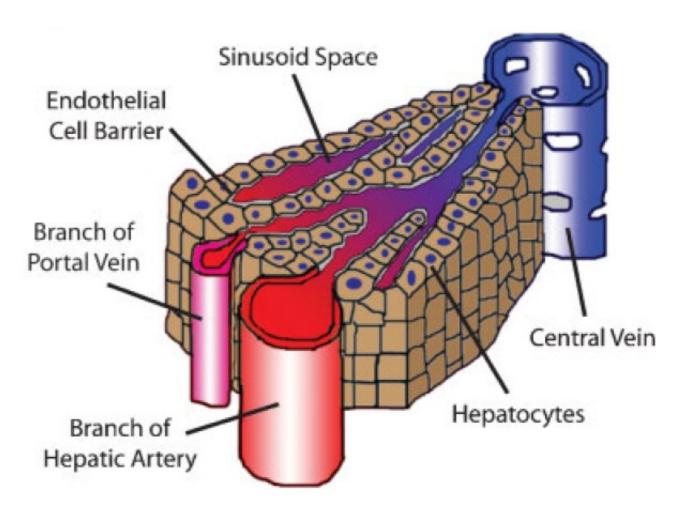
#### Milestones - Year 1

Milestone 4. To generate a population of normal hiPSC-derived HPs that resembles primary human hepatocytes in drug metabolism activities.

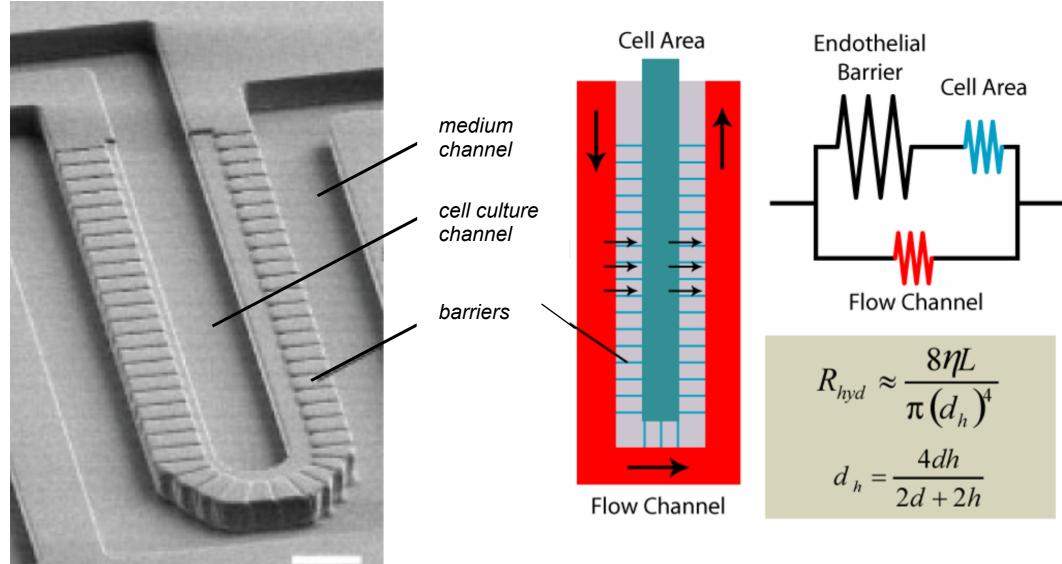
**Goals and timeline:** To identify hiPS cell lines from clinically normal donors that produce HPs that have drug metabolism activities similar to normal hpHPs. 18 months.

Criteria for Success: Generation of hiPSC-derived HPs that exhibit drug metabolism activities similar to freshly isolated hpHPs. Achieving this milestone will require the following: (1) The purity of the hiPSC-derived HPs will be at least 80% as measured by FACS for HP-specific markers. (2) The activities of enzymes and transporters critical for hepatic drug metabolism will be at least 50% of those of hpHPs. Since the cytochrome P450 enzymes are critical for phase I drug metabolism as well as general metabolism of the human liver, the characteristics of the hiPSC-derived HPs will be assessed by the quantitative measurements of the activities of CYP1A1, CYP2B6, CYP2Cs, CYP2D6 and CYP3A4. In addition, the activities of 2 phase II (UGT and SULT) drug-metabolizing enzymes, 3 phase 0 uptake transporters (OATP1Bs, OATs, OCTs), and 2 phase III efflux transporters (P-gp and BCRP) will be measured.

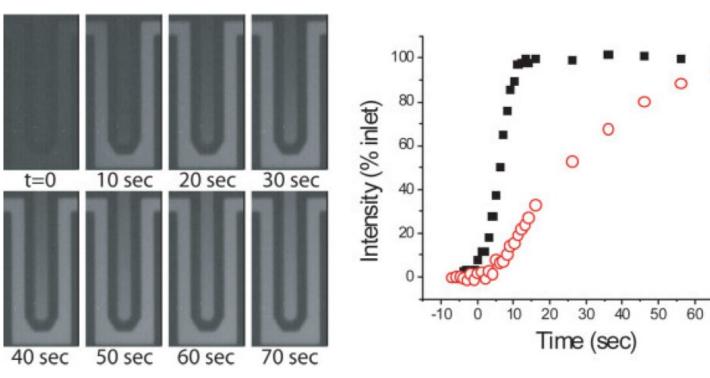




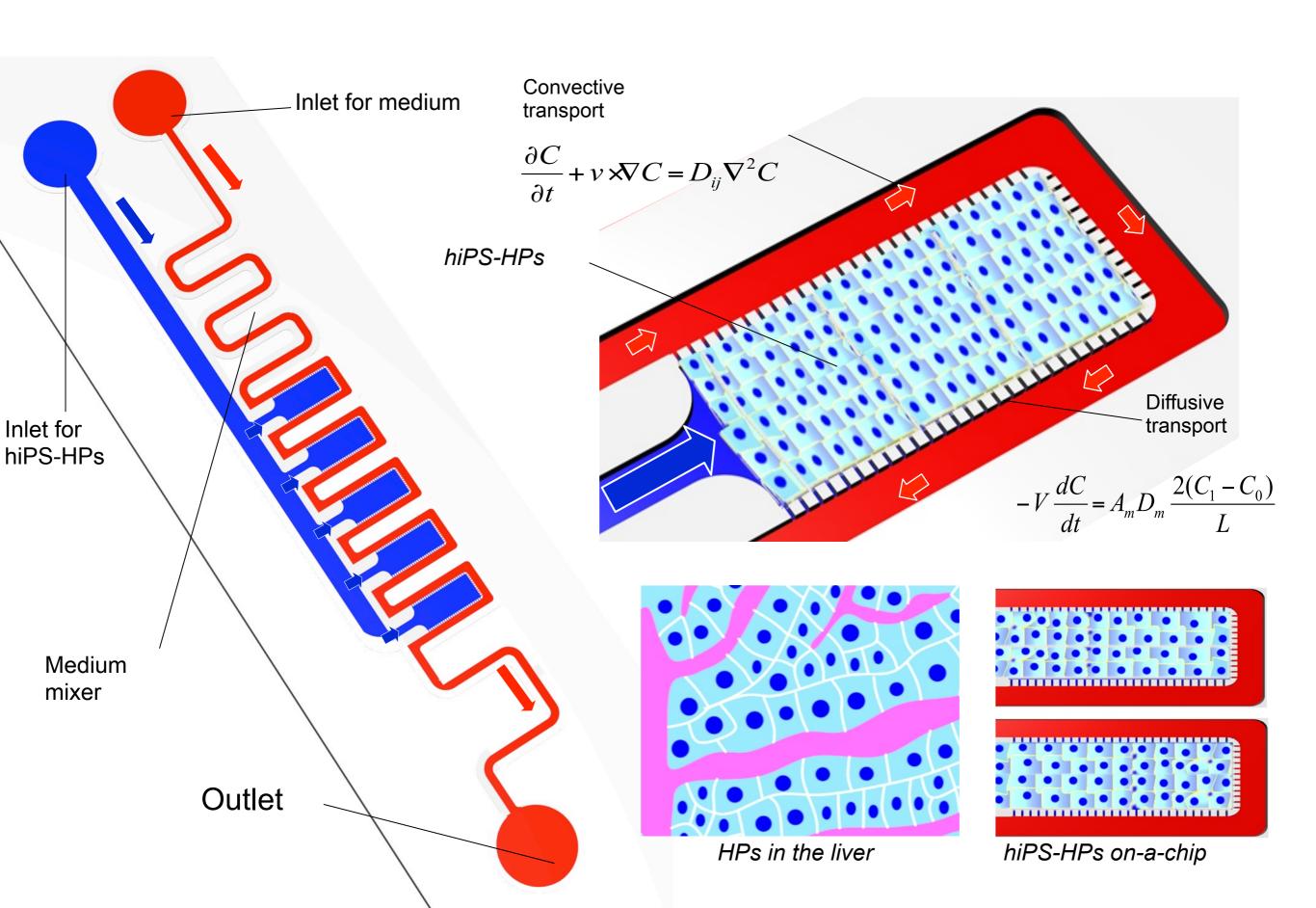
# **Model Liver Sinusoid**



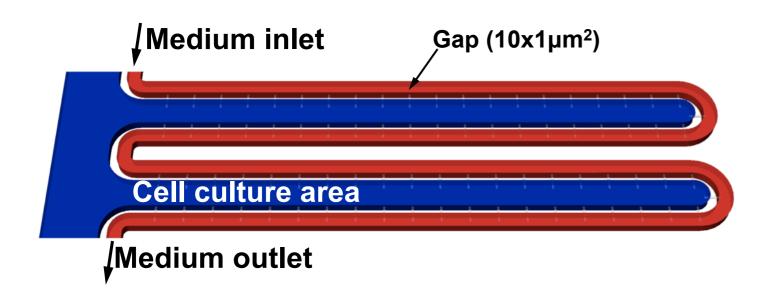
- \* Microfluidic endothelial-like cell barrier
- **\*** High density hepatocyte culture
- \* Continuous flow mass transport



# Disease-Specific Human Liver Tissue Model



#### Numerical Simulation: Nutrient Profile



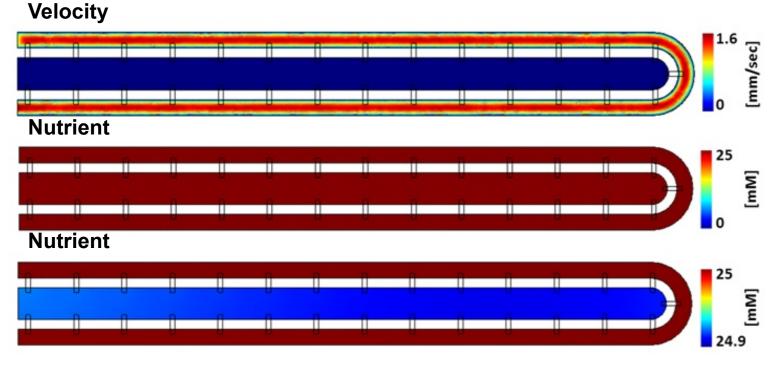
#### **Governing equation:**

$$-D\nabla^2 c = R - u \times \nabla c$$

D: Diffusion coefficient, c: Concentration,

R: Reaction, u: Velocity

#### **Nutrient Profile**



#### **Simulation conditions**

Nutrient concentration: 25mM

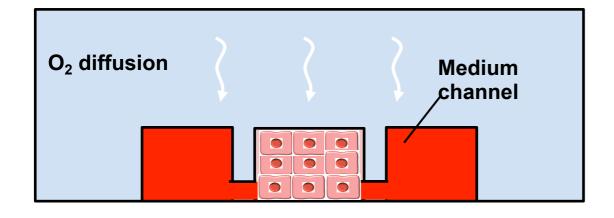
Cell number in the culture chamber: 2000 cells

Nutrient consumption rate: 10~40 fmol/cell day

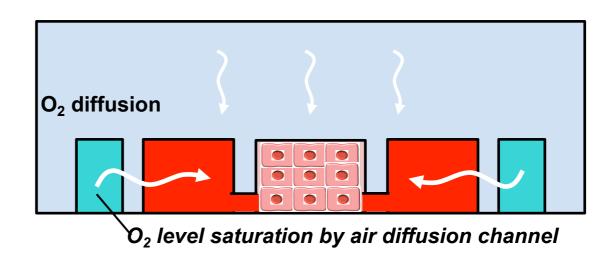
Flow rate: 0.1 µl/min (0.83 mm/sec)

# Numerical Simulation: Oxygen Profile

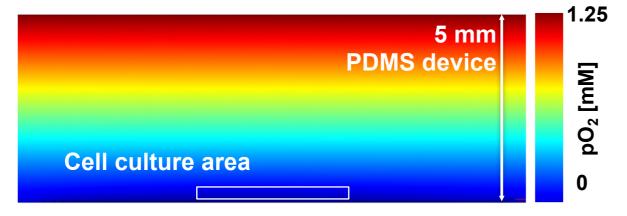
#### **Oxygen Gradients**



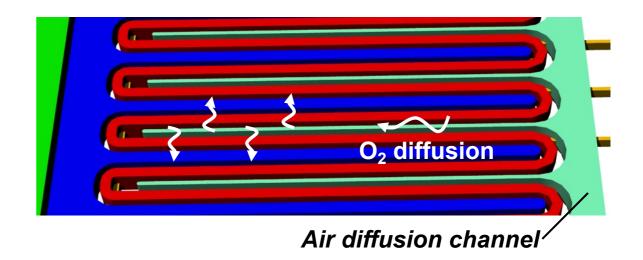
#### Solution: Air Diffusion Channel



#### O<sub>2</sub> Profile

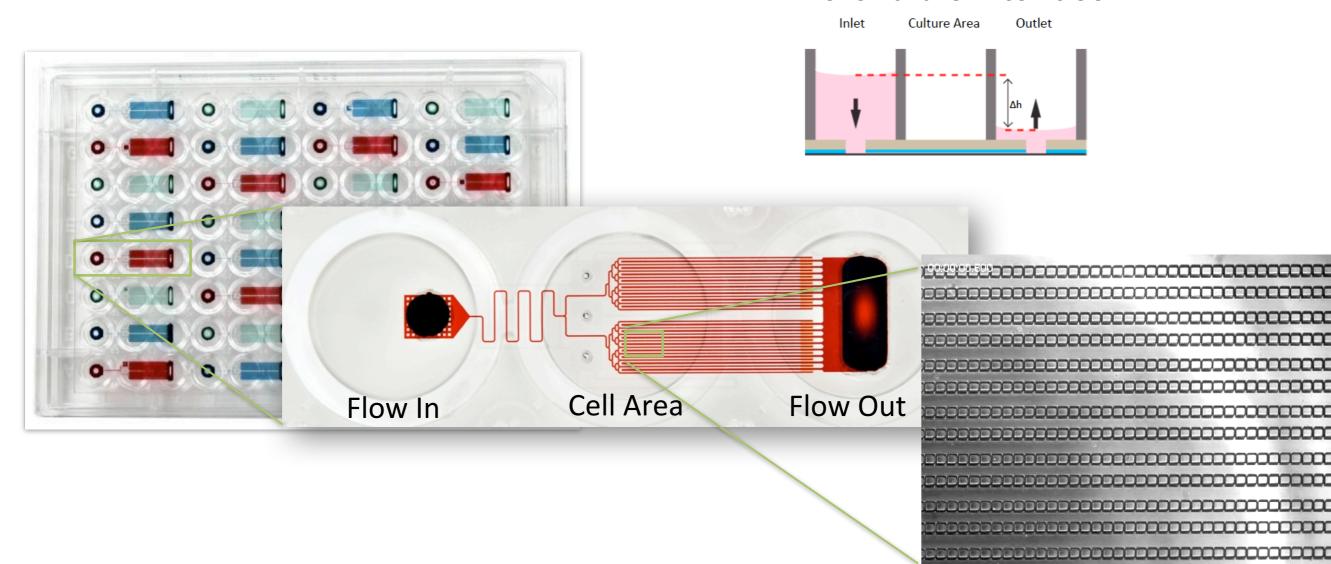


**O<sub>2</sub> consumption rate:** 3.8E-16 mol·cell<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>



# Microfluidic Liver Tissue Model Array

# User-friendly Tubeless Microfluidic Interface

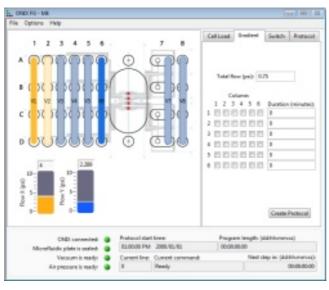


- \* Three well positions per flow unit
- \* 20,000-50,000 cells per culture unit
- \* Continuous media flow (100 μl/day)
- \* 96 well format (32 flow units)
- \* Gas exchange through permeable membrane

# Microfluidic Liver Tissue Model Array







# **Control System**

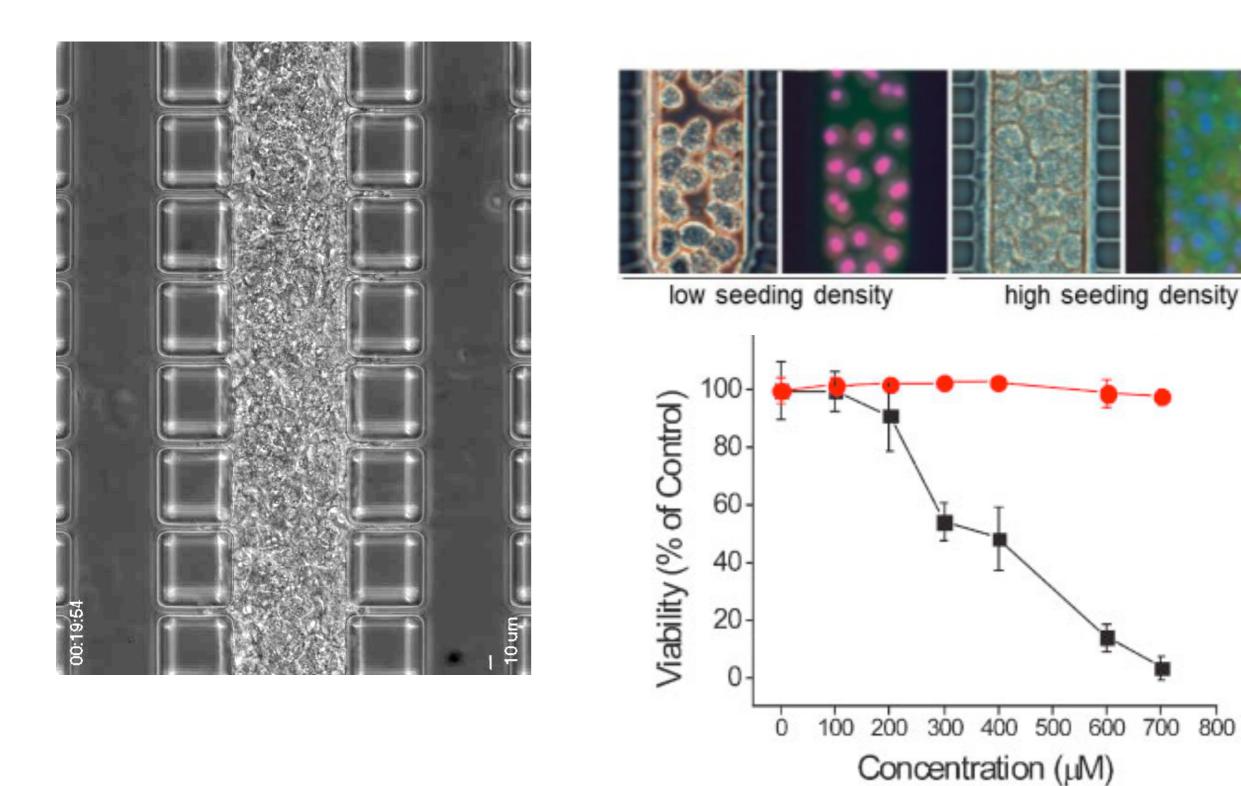
- Air pressure-driven flow control
- CO<sub>2</sub>/gas delivery directly to microfluidic chip
- Transparent manifold window for imaging, e.g. DIC
- Vacuum sealed micro-incubator
- Software schedules media flow

Microfluidic Chip

**Software** 

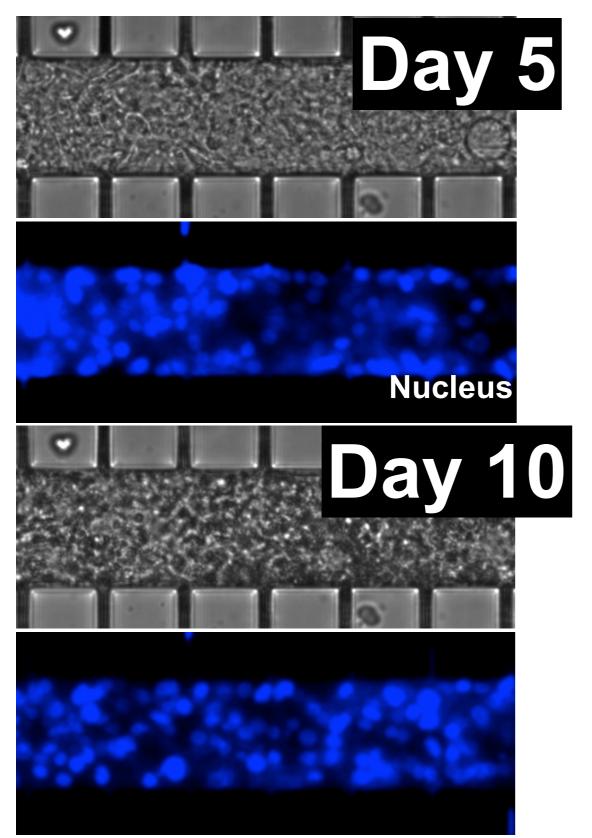
**CELLASIC** 

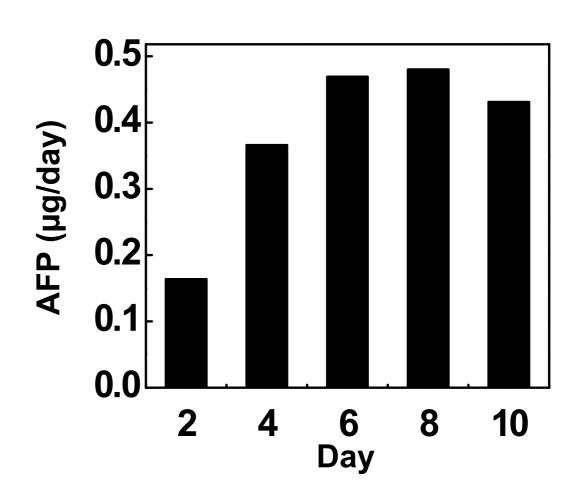
# Microfluidic Liver Tissue Model Array



diclofenac was used to test metabolism mediated hepatotoxicity

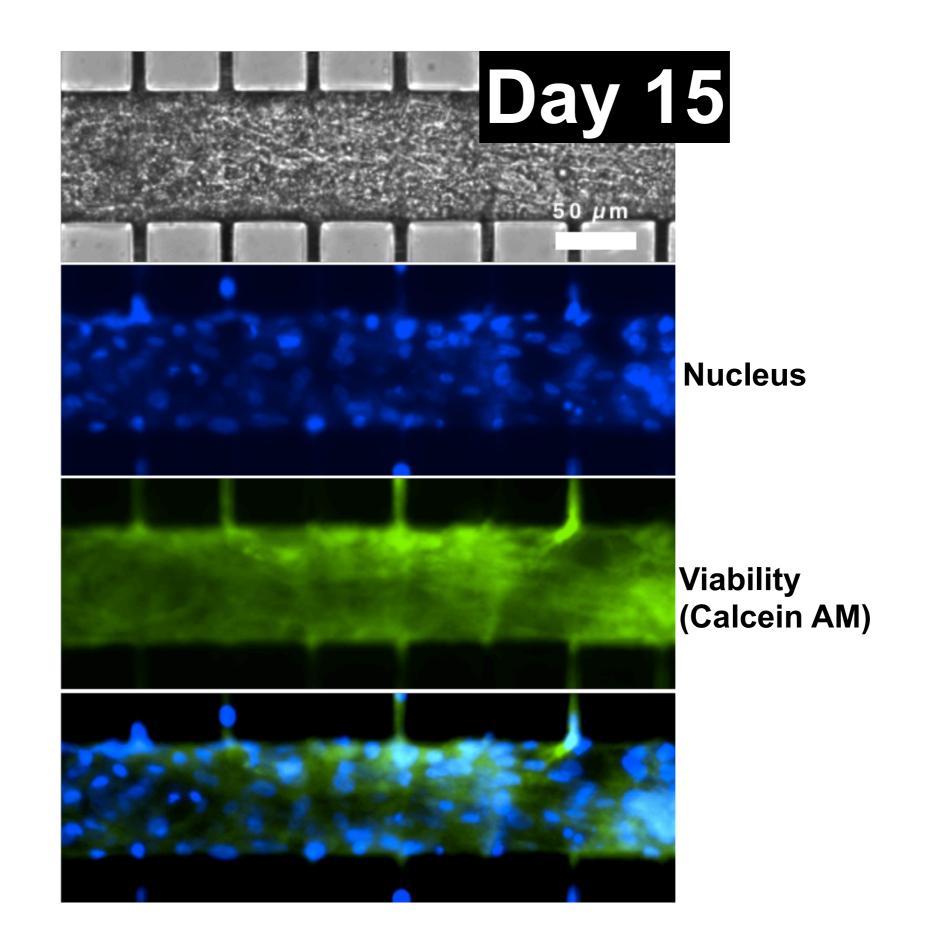
# hHPs on Chip





- \* α-fetoprotein (AFP) secretion per unit (~30,000 cells)
- \* Albumin secretion is not significant (less than 10 ng/day)

# hHPs on Chip



# **Hepatocytes Derived from Patient-Specific iPSCs**

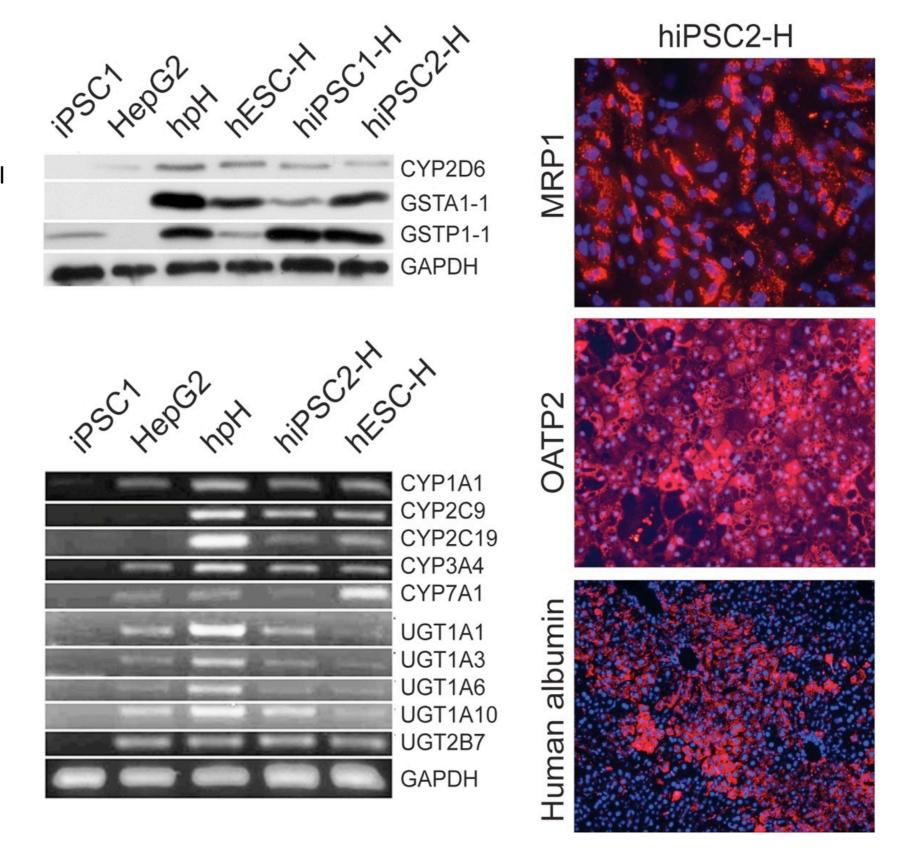
#### Expression of phase I, II and III drug metabolism enzymes in hiPSC-HPs

hiPSC-HP line 2 expresses phase I and II enzymes at similar or higher levels than hESC-HPs

Levels of most enzymes are of similar magnitude as those found in hpHPs



Holger Willenbring
UCSF- Stem Cell Center
UCSF- Liver Center



#### Milestones - Year 1

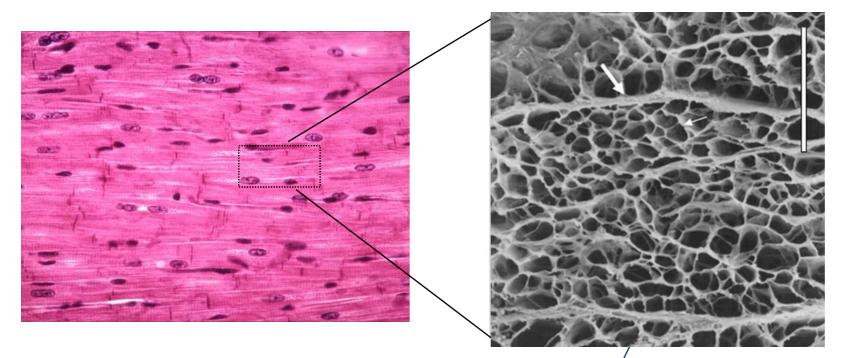
Milestone 2. To organize the structure of healthy and LQTS-hiPSC-CMs into a 3D in vitro model of the human myocardium. To assess the functional behavior of the normal and "diseased tissue" models by examining their electrical activity and function.

Goals and timeline: Determine a set of device parameters that organize the alignment of hiPSC-CMs into a beating microtissue. 14 months.

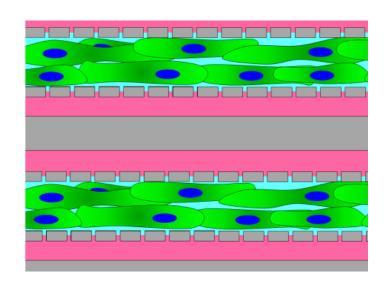
Criteria for Success: Healthy hiPSC-CM derived cardiac tissue will have physiologically relevant mean field potential duration (~400 ms) and beat rates (60 beats/min). LQTS hiPSC-CM-derived cardiac tissue will have physiologically relevant mean field potential duration (~600 ms) and beat rates (60 beats/min). Healthy and LQTS hiPSC-CM-derived cardiac tissue in our microsystem will be viable and amenable to continuous monitoring (e.g., MEA) and sampling for over 4 weeks.

# Device parameters will affect cell-cell contacts, electrical activity, and contraction within the 3D tissue formed

#### CM cells in the heart



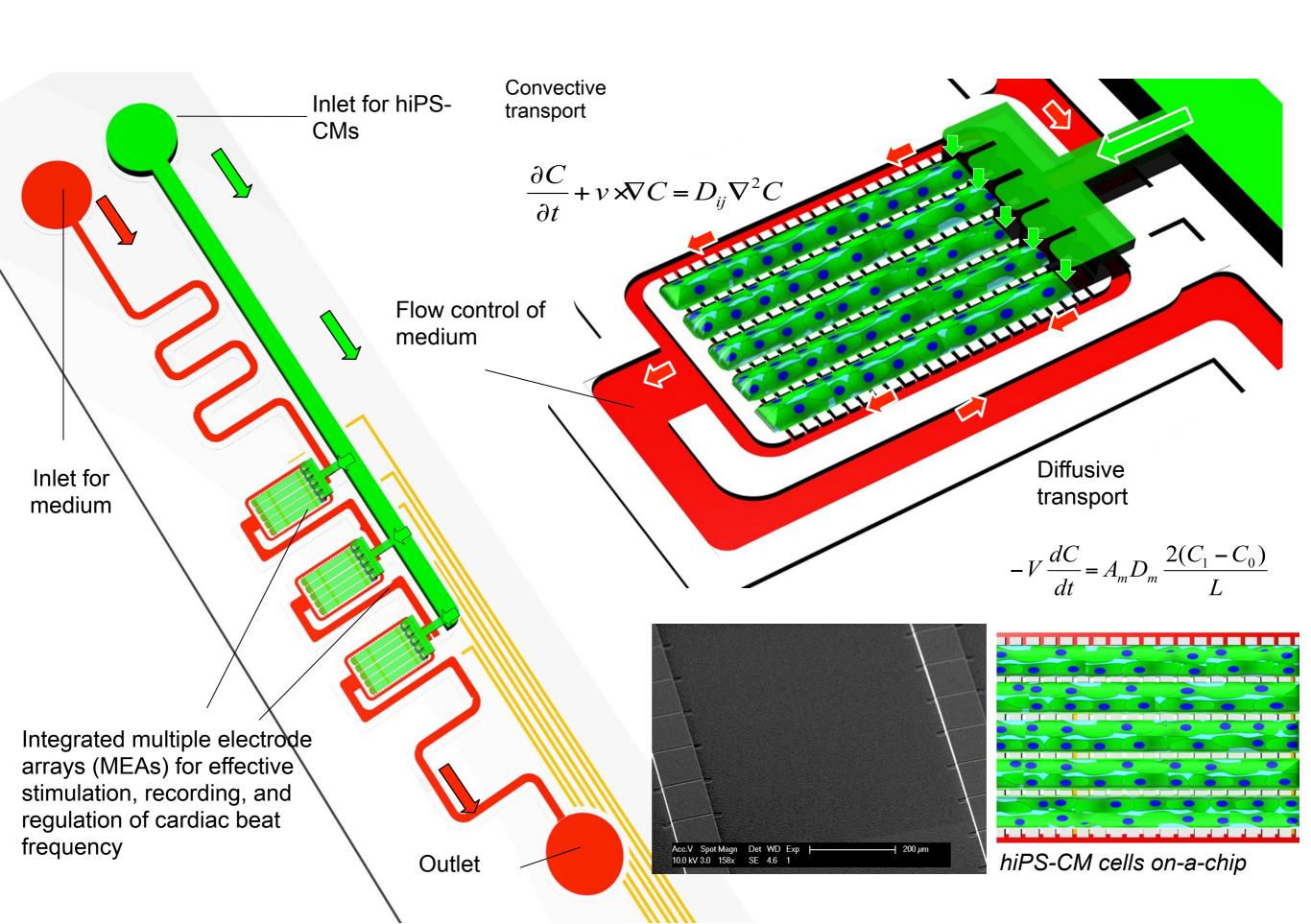
#### hiPS-CM cells on-a-chip



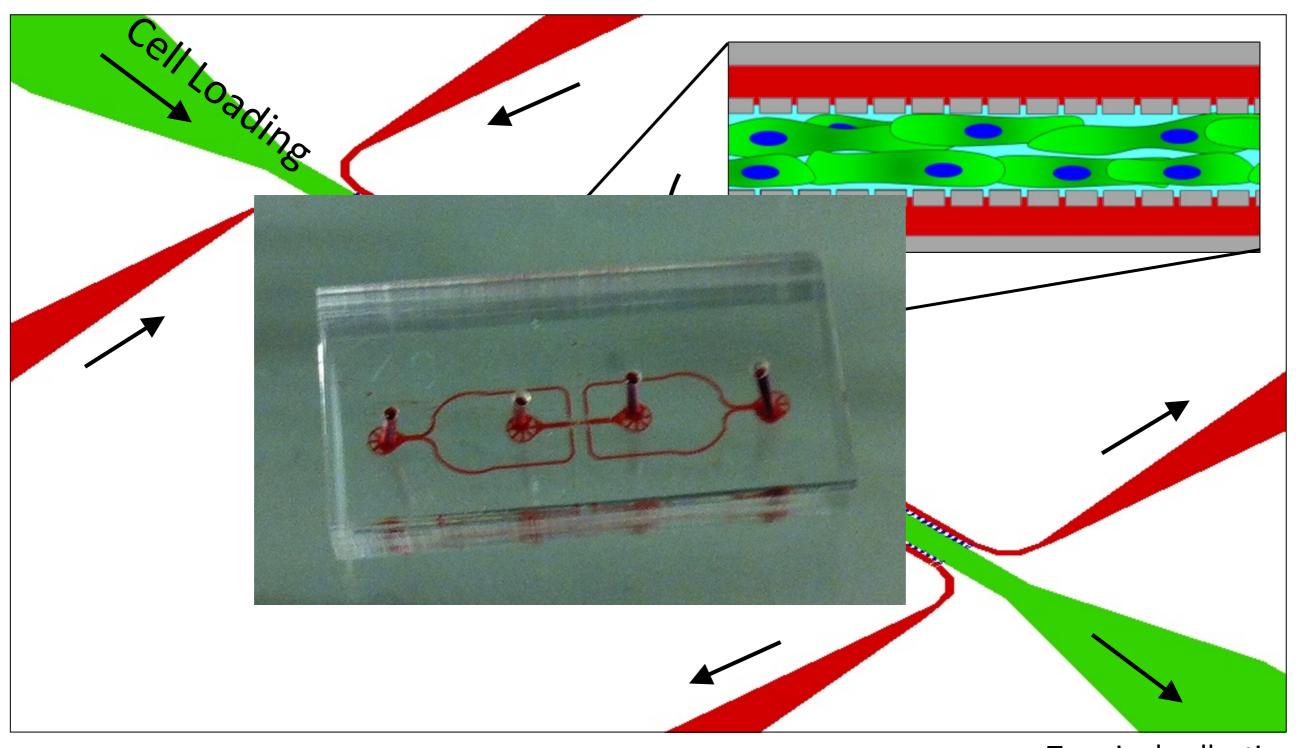
Perimysial collagen fibers aligned with CMs

Kanzaki, Y. et al., Circulation. 2010;122:1973-1974.

## Disease-Specific Human Cardiac Tissue Model



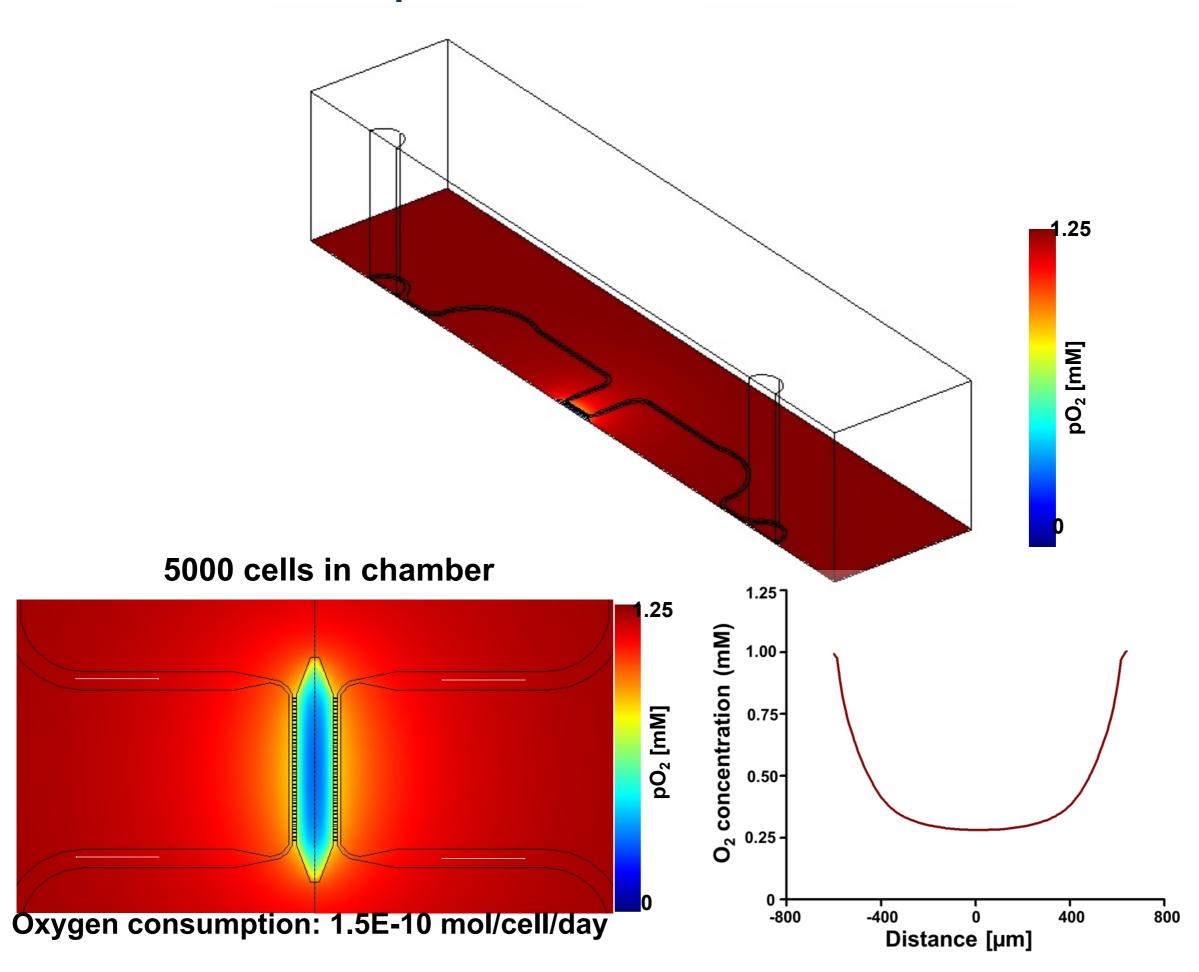
# **Disease-Specific Human Cardiac Tissue Model**



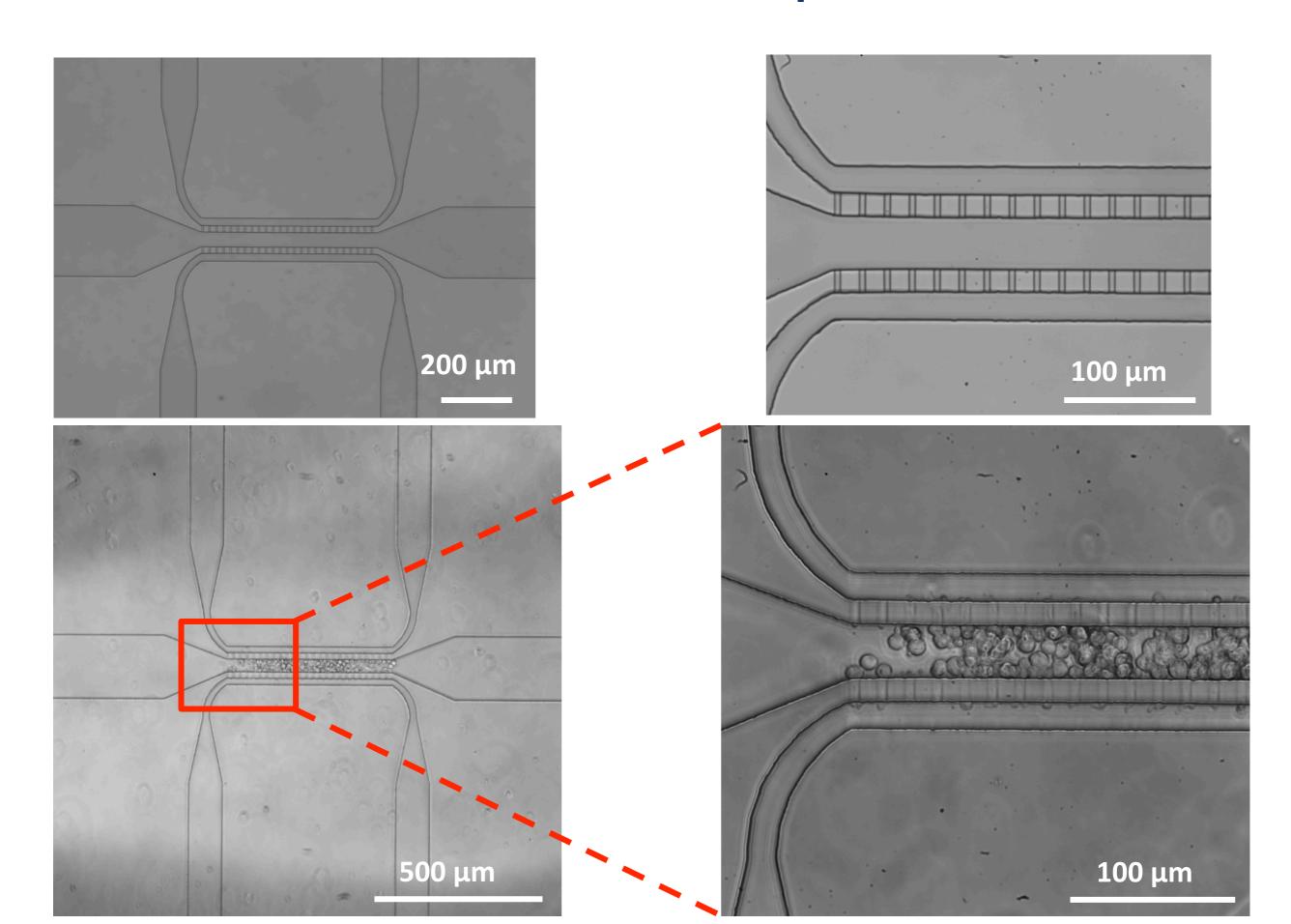
Real time sampling

Terminal collection of cells

## Disease-Specific Human Cardiac Tissue Model



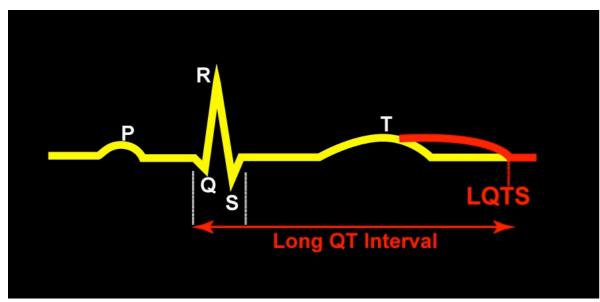
# hiPS-CMs on Chip



# **Long QT Syndrome**

Mutations in 10 genes: KCNQ1 (LQT1), KCNH2 (LQT2, HERG), and SCN5A (LQT3)

#### **ECG**



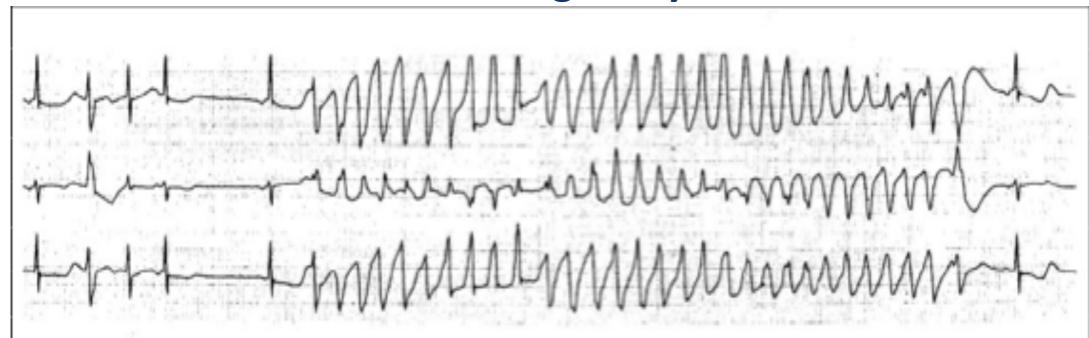
**Genetic and drug-induced forms** 

Genetic prevalence ~ 1:2,000

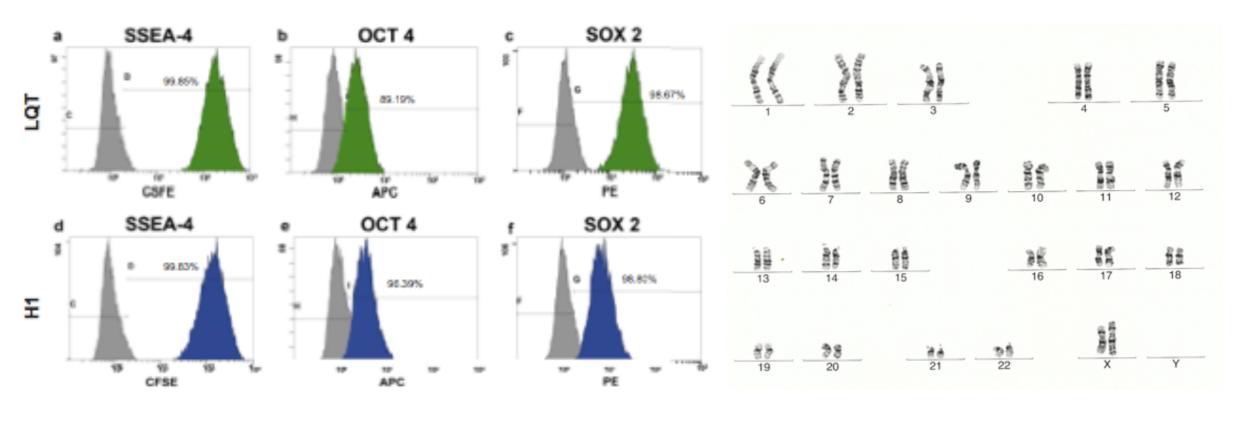
# LQT3 patient

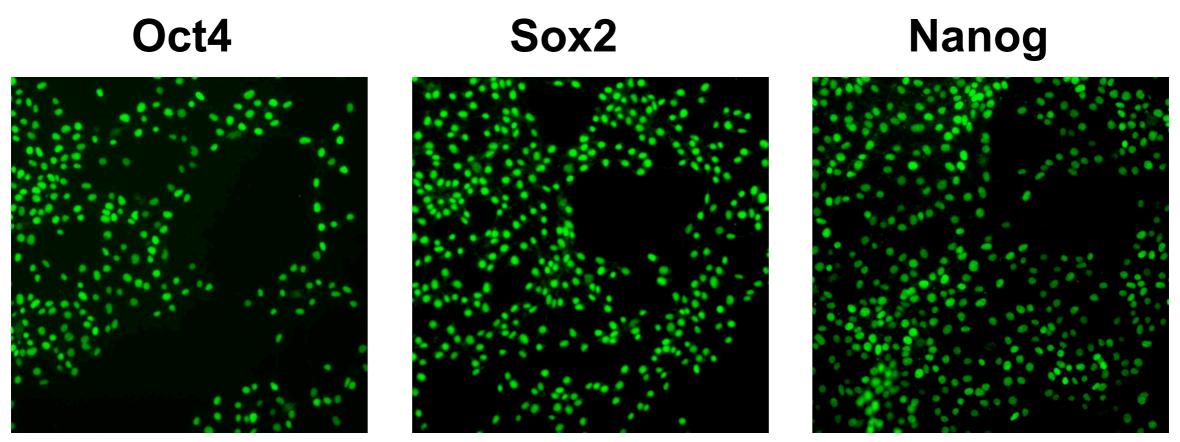
- Ventricular tachycardia at birth
- Na ion channel SCN5A N406K mutation
- QT interval = 500-523 msec (normal <460)
- Many ventricular arrhythmias
- Diseased at age 19

## Life-threatening arrhythmias

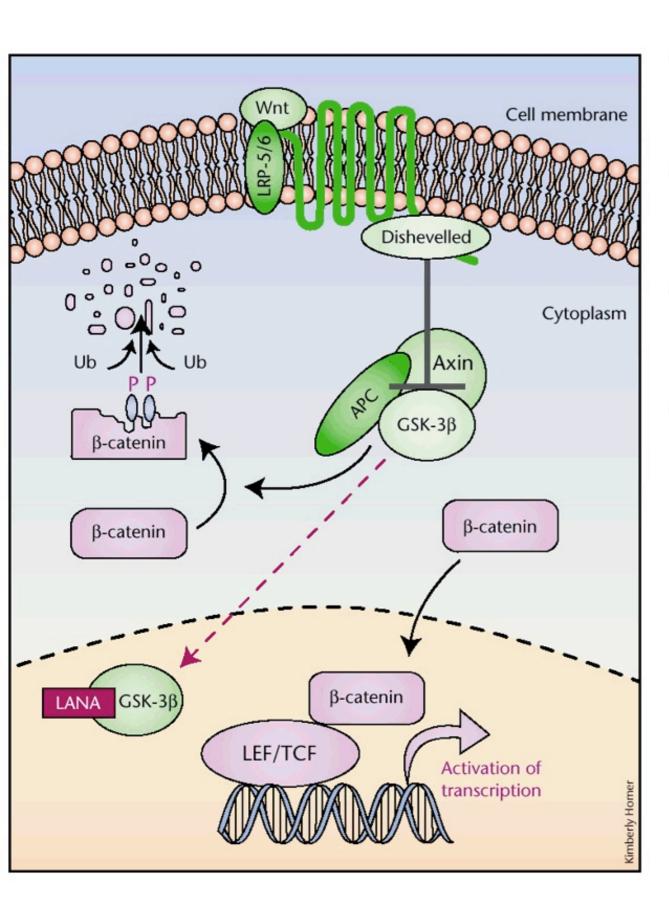


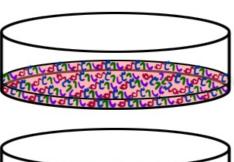
# **Characterization of LQT hiPSCs**

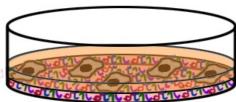


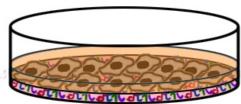


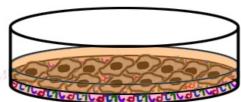
#### **Wnt Differentiation Method**











Matrigel<sup>TM</sup> coating

**DAY -3**: Seed cells in mTeSR<sup>TM</sup> 1 with ROCK inhibitor

Allow cells to proliferate

**DAY 0**: 12  $\mu$ M CHIR99021 in RPMI/B27-I

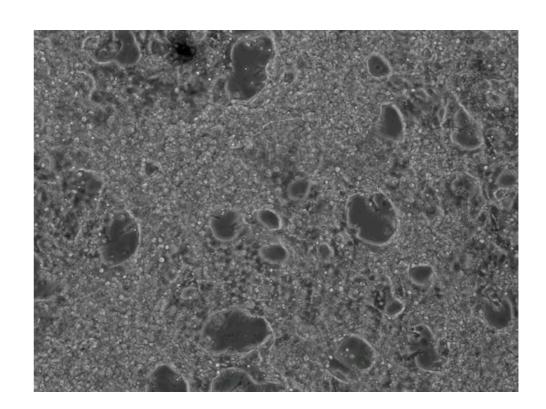
**DAY 1**: RPMI/B27-I

**DAY 3**: 5 μM IWP-4

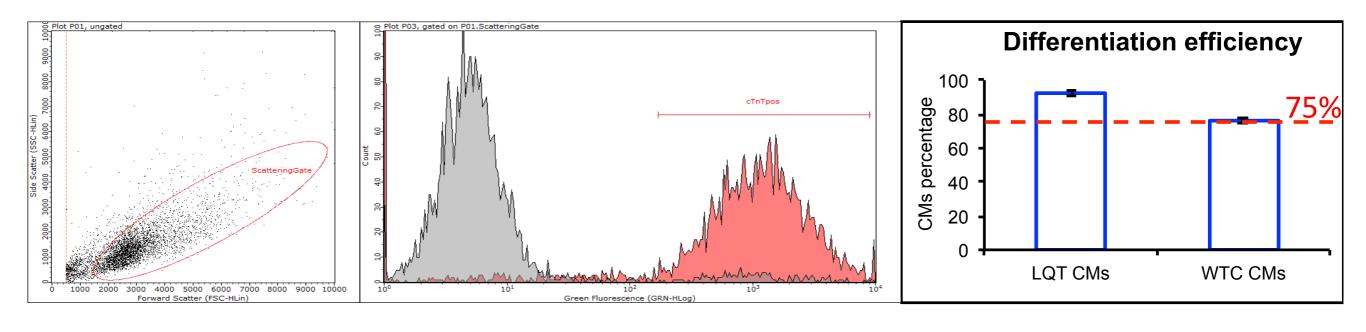
**DAY 5**: RPMI/B27-I

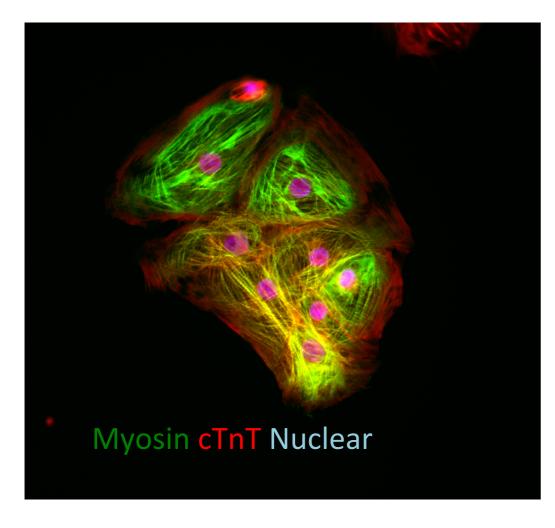
DAY 7 - 30: RPMI/B27 complete

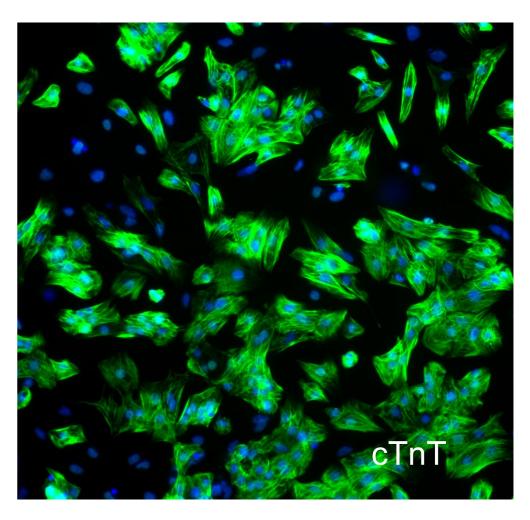
supplement



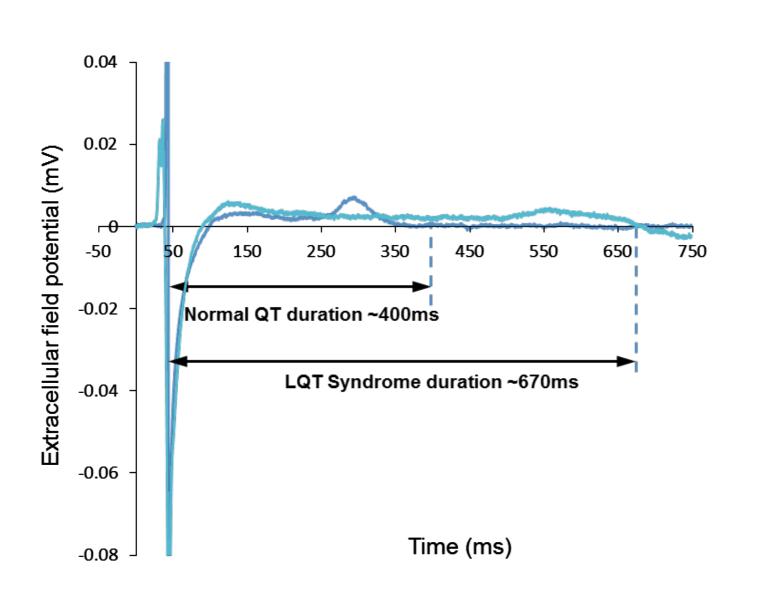
## Differentiation Efficiency using WNT Protocol for WT and LQT iPSCs



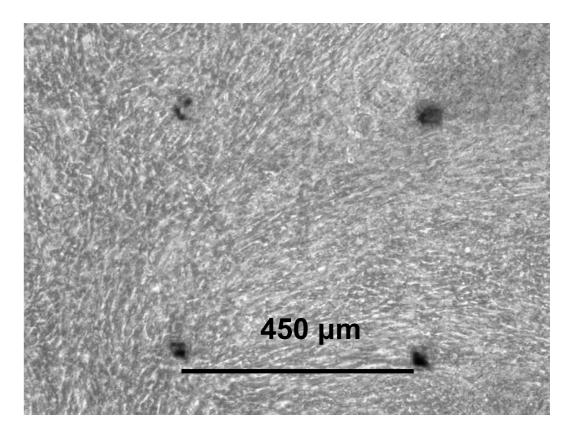


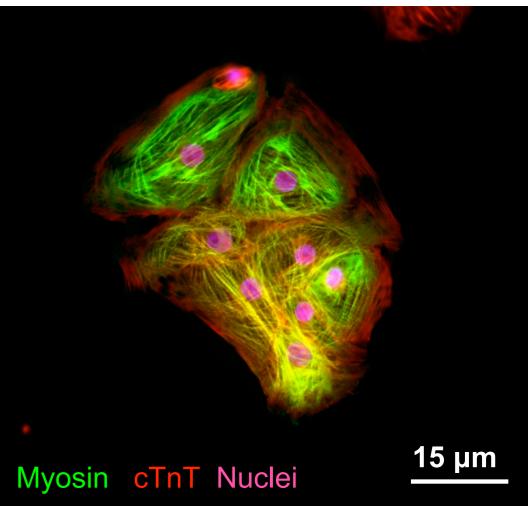


# **LQT3** hiPSC-CM derived Cardiac Tissue

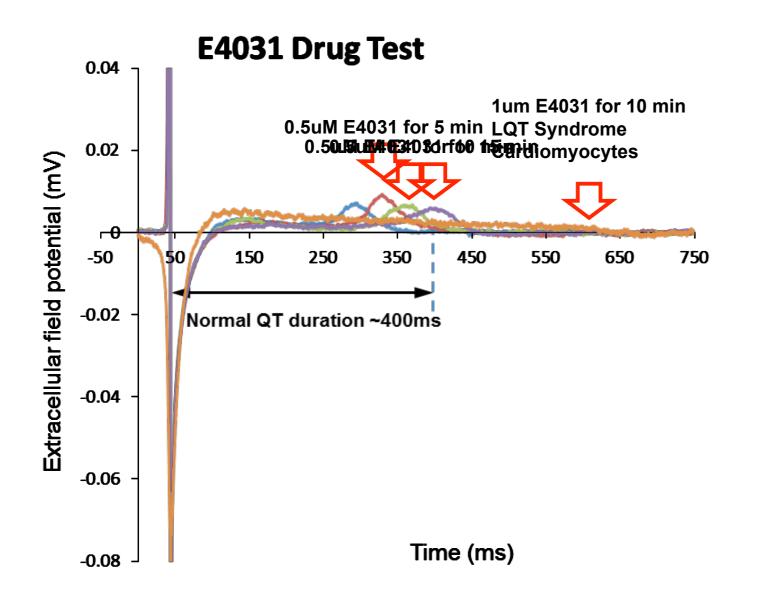


- Field potential duration (FPD)
- Beat rate

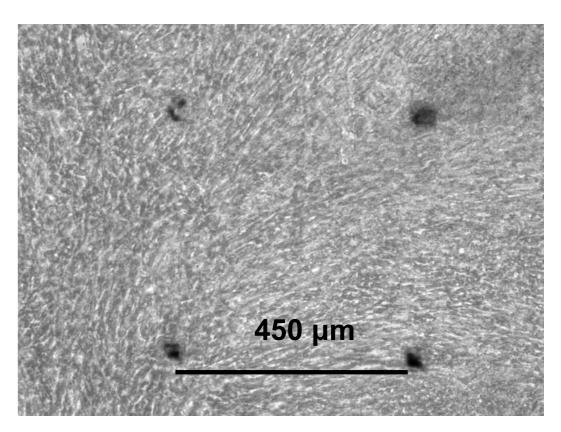


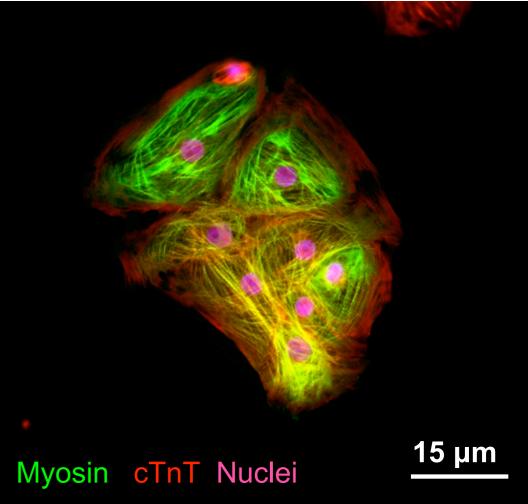


# **LQT3** hiPSC-CM derived Cardiac Tissue

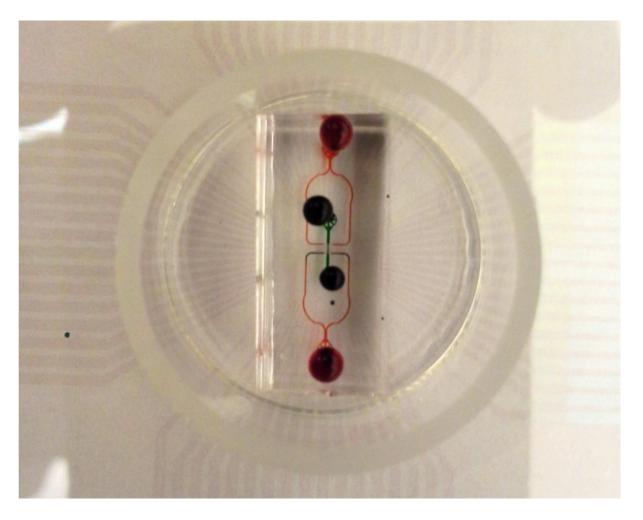


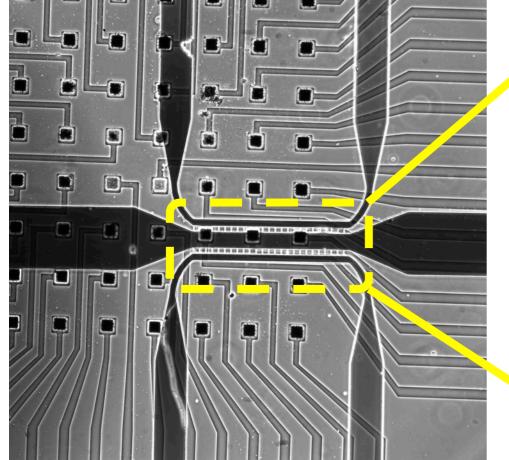
- E4031 blocks I<sub>K</sub>
- Extends QT interval

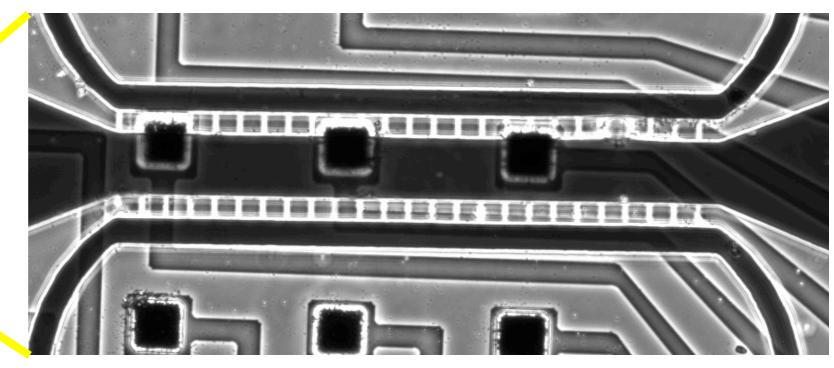




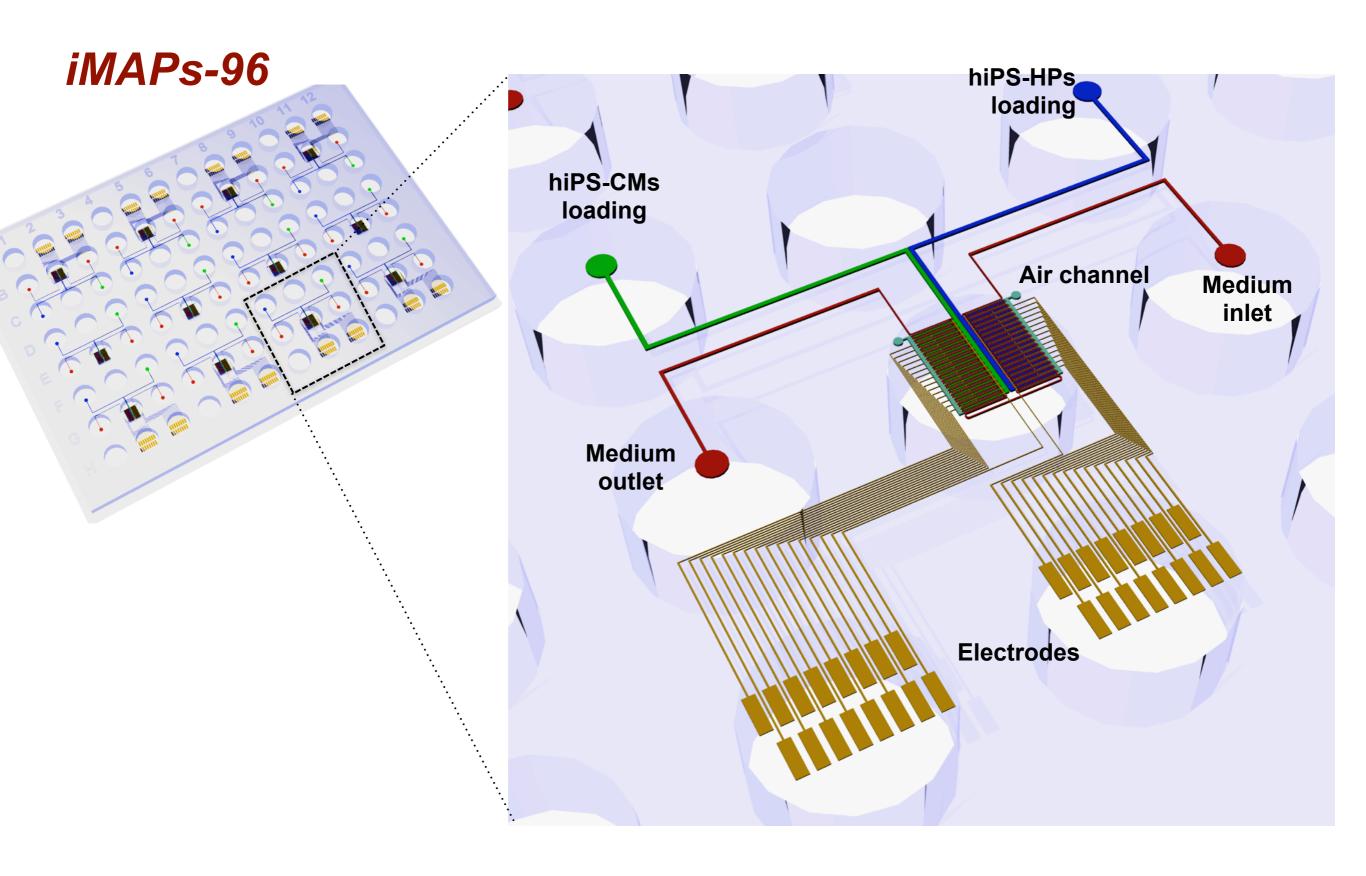
# **Bonding of the Cardiac Chip to Commercial MEA**







# User-friendly "Tubeless" integrated Microphysiological Analysis Platform (iMAP) on a 96-well plate



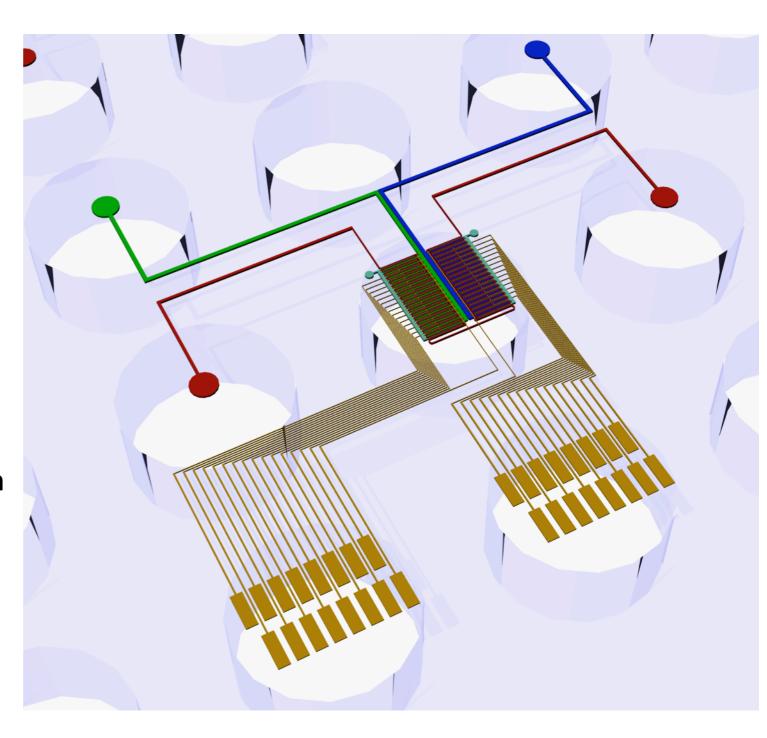
# User-friendly "Tubeless" integrated Microphysiological Analysis Platform (iMAP) on a 96-well plate

#### **Advantages**

- \* Human & disease specific organoid
- \* Microfluidic endothelial-like cell barrier
- \* Continuous flow mass transport
- \* Low cost and ease of use
- \* Multiplexing
- \* Integrates with existing 96-well plate analytical platforms

#### **Disadvantages**

- \* Lacks interaction with vasculature
- \* Lacks Endothelial HP or CM interaction



#### iMAPS Validation

#### iMAPS Liver

The activities of enzymes and transporters critical for hepatic drug metabolism will be at least 50% of those of hpHPs

Cytochrome P450 enzymes - I drug metabolism as well as general metabolism of the human liver: CYP1A1, CYP2B6, CYP2Cs, CYP2D6 and CYP3A4

Phase II (UGT and SULT) drug-metabolizing enzymes

Phase 0 uptake transporters (OATP1Bs, OATs, OCTs), and 2 phase III efflux transporters (P-gp and BCRP) will be measured.

#### iMAPS Heart

Physiologically relevant mean field potential duration and beat rates

Greater than 75% accuracy of healthy and diseased cardiac tissue models response to drugs known to affect cardiac beat frequency, contractility, and metabolism

Qualification of drugs known to affect cardiac physiology and toxicity

#### This research was supported by

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